(b) to (d) On 12.07.2004, the State of Punjab enacted the Punjab Termination of Agreements Act, 2004 terminating the 1981 agreement and all other agreements relating to Ravi Beas waters. The report of the Hon'ble Supreme Court on a Presidential Reference field before it on 22.07.2004 questioning the constitutional validity of the Act will facilitate further course of action in the resolution of the issue of restoration of remaining 0.60 MAF to Rajasthan.

Lining of water courses

3637. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Government of Rajasthan has submitted proposals for lining of water courses on completion of lining works of distributaries/minors of Gang Command under Rajasthan Water Sector Restructuring Project (RWSRP) so that full benefits of expenditure incurred under above scheme may be ensured;

(b) whether any project proposal amounting to Rs. 538.00 crores for implementation of Command Area Development and Water Management (CADWM) programme in the command area of Gang and demonstration of bio-drainage is pending with his Ministry;

(c) if so, the time schedule for sanctioning the same; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA) : (a) and (b) In accordance with the guidelines of the scheme, a project proposal amounting to Rs. 538.00 crore submitted by Government of Rajasthan for implementation of Command Area Development and Water Management (CADWM) Programme including Lining of Water Courses in the command area of Gang canal has been approved subject to the condition that sanction order for inclusion of Gang canal under CADWM Programme will be issued only after submission of the completion report on one of the on-going CADWM Projects by the Government of Rajasthan. The Government of Rajasthan has, so far, not submitted completion report of any of the on-going CADWM projects. Regarding demonstration of bio-drainage, no such proposal has been received from Government of Rajasthan.

(c) The issuance of sanction order for inclusion of Gang canal under CADWM Programme would depend on submission of completion report of one of the on-going CADWM Project by the Government of Rajasthan.

(d) Does not arise.

Irrigation Projects

3638. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA :
SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI :
Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are 89 major and 116 medium irrigation ongoing projects in the Eleventh Plan, which could not be completed as per schedule, major projects being of 1992 vintage;

(b) whether total ultimate irrigation potential of these projects is 12.30 mha. of which potential of 5.792 mha. is likely to have been created by end of Tenth Plan, the balance potential of 6.508 mha. is yet to be created;

(c) the total loss to the nation, as 'cost escalation', due to delay; and

(d) whether above scenario is matter of serious concern?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA) : (a) and (b) Normal period for completion of irrigation projects are taken as 15 to 20 years for Major projects and 5 to 10 years for medium projects. Accordingly, the major projects started during or before 1992 and medium projects started during or before VIII Plan which have been continuing as ongoing projects in XI Plan, may be considered as delayed projects. As per the assessment of the Report of the Working Group on Water Resources for XI Plan, there are 89 major and 116 medium ongoing projects in the XI Plan. These projects are having 12.30 mha of ultimate irrigation potential out of which 5.792 mha (anticipated) have been created till and of X Plan, leaving 6.508 mha of balance irrigation potential to be developed. Total Latest Estimated Cost of these projects is Rs. 1,45,746.50 Crore out of which Rs. 84,185.89 crore is anticipated to have been incurred till end of X Five Year Plan.

However, the Working Group on Water Resources for XI Five Year Plan had also anticipated that 48 Major and 91 Medium projects would be completed during X Plan, out of which, some of the projects could not be completed, adding 11 Major and 40 Medium delayed projects to the above and thus totaling to 100 Major projects started during or before 1992 and 156 Medium projects started during or before VIII Plan which are ongoing.

(c) and (d) Irrigation is a State subject and planning, execution, funding and priority of execution of irrigation projects is within the purview of the concerned State Governments. The projects are usually delayed due to resettlement and rehabilitation issues and shortage of funds with State Government which results in thin spreading of the resources. Concerned with the large number of ongoing projects, the Union Government launched Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) during 1996-97 in order to provide financial assistance to State Governments for expeditious completion of ongoing projects. So far, Union Government has provided central assistance amounting to Rs. 36533.5132 crore to various State Governments. Since launch of the AIBP, 103 major/medium projects/protect components are reported to have been completed so far.

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3639. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM :
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state: